

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 138, I was detained off the House floor during this 2 minute vote series and was unable to cast my vote before the vote was closed.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained during rollcall vote 598 on July 15, 2011, leaving me unable to cast my official vote in opposition. If I were present at the time of the vote, I would have cast a "nay" vote because we cannot continue to waste taxpayer money and should not continue to try and substitute government for the role of parents in children's lives. I am pleased that Congress was able to act on this amendment and I look to the Senate for its expedited review and hope that the President will subsequently sign into law H.R. 2354, in which the amendment is contained. Our families deserve the prudent fiscal allocation of taxpayer money.

HONORING THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND SOCCER TEAM

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a remarkable team from Maryland's Fifth Congressional District who, last month, proved that practice, perseverance, and teamwork can lead to victory. On July 2, Team USA, consisting entirely of athletes from St. Mary's County, Maryland, defeated Spain in the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer

Games Men's Soccer Championship match in Athens, Greece. They are the first U.S. team to bring home the gold in this event.

In a come-from-behind win, Team USA emerged triumphant over the Spanish team with a 2–1 victory. Avery Long, who had never touched a soccer ball before this year, scored both the tying and winning goals. On the first, he was assisted by team member Larry Mills. With only two goals scored against him in the entire tournament, goalie Alan Hill can take great pride in being the most successful goalie in the 2011 games. TEAM USA was rounded out by Sam Huffman, Steven Summerfelt, Wesley Thompson, Sack Hall, Terrel Nowlin, Thomas Smith, and Shaun Ridley. All of these men can take great pride in the culmination of their hard work and dedication.

So, too, can the team's leadership and coaching staff—Director Mary Lu Bucci, Head Coach John Toner, Assistant Coach Ken Cohen, and Manager Minter Willis. Together they have a combined total of 74 years of experience with Special Olympics in Southern Maryland.

I also want to pay tribute to the 7 additional members of Special Olympics Maryland who traveled to Athens to be among the 7,500 athletes from 185 countries to participate in the 2011 World Summer Games. They are: Syd Lea (Cycling), Randi Penebugh (Powerlifting), James Purnell (Kayaking), Samantha DiSanti (Kayaking), Zachary Poston (Swimming), and James Dietrich and his Unified Partner, Robert Battista (Sailing).

In all, Team Maryland achieved tremendous success, winning a total of ten medals—8 of which were gold. I want to congratulate them on their impressive achievements and I ask that all Americans join with me in applauding these outstanding individuals who have brought great pride to our nation.

RECOGNITION OF ASIWPCCA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2011

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators, ASIWPCCA, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

ASIWPCCA is an independent, nonpartisan, national organization of state and interstate water program directors, who everyday works on implementing water quality programs under the Clean Water Act, CWA. Founded in 1961, ASIWPCCA was created by the states, to serve the states, and is the only nationally recognized organization completely led by state water directors. After five decades the ASIWPCCA continues to protect and restore America's watersheds to achieve "clean water everywhere for everyone."

Long before the enactment of the Clean Water Act, state and interstate professionals—including those from my own State—were working together through ASIWPCCA to protect and improve water quality across America. In addition to serving as a liaison among these officials, ASIWPCCA facilitates state communication with the federal government and promotes public education. ASIWPCCA has built credible collaborative relationships with Congress, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Geological Survey, and the United States Department of Agriculture. ASIWPCCA is a key contributor in the legislative, regulatory, and policy arenas. When the federal government collaborates with states through ASIWPCCA, better regulations are drafted, superior policy is created, and the public is better served.

As the chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I can attest to the fact that ASIWPCCA has met and exceeded the goals its founders established 50 years ago. In the future, we look to ASIWPCCA to continue their work to help states develop and implement sound water quality policies that advance clean water and a healthy environment. This benefits all Americans, including those in my home State of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, in light of ASIWPCCA's state membership, national leadership on water quality issues, mission to serve the public, state government representation, and proven track record and collaboration efforts, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate ASIWPCCA on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has relied on ASIWPCCA's assistance and expertise for decades and will undoubtedly continue to do so as we seek to protect and restore our Nation's waters in the future.